



**TOWN OF HINTON**  
**Community Engagement & Accountability**  
**Committee Room**  
**January 15, 2015**

**PRESENT:** Garth Griffiths, Kathy Rees, Scott Sunderwald, George Higgerty, Albert Ostashek, JoAnn Race, Doug Heine, Shirley Caputo, Ron McKay, Councillor Matthew Young, Councillor Jack Williams

**ABSENT:** Gerry Brandt, Fiona Murray-Galbraith

**SECRETARY:** Rhonda West

**ALSO PRESENT:** Christopher Read – Acting Director of Community & Protective Services

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**ORDER**

Chairman Garth Griffiths called the Regular Meeting of the Community Engagement & Accountability Committee ("CEAC") to order. The time was 11:02 a.m.

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

**SUNDERWALD-** That the Agenda for the January 15, 2015 Meeting of CEAC be adopted.

**CARRIED**

**DELEGATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS**

**Performing Arts Centre:** Christopher Read, Recreation & Culture Manager, provided an update to CEAC on the Performing Arts Centre. Highlights of the presentation included:

- Council agreed to the partnership
- Solid collaboration of stakeholders is in place
- Will be asking the Province to extend the \$1million grant
- Location will be expansion of The Guild
- Timeline is targeted for September, 2016

**Highway Corridor Study:** Councillor Matthew Young reviewed the strategies from the Highway Corridor Community Needs Assessment relating to the draft Land Use Bylaw and Municipal Development Plan. Councillor Young noted that the first draft of the Land Use Bylaw is available for members to review and provide feedback.

- Architectural Design Guidelines: Mountain theme still exists but taking out the "must" wording and have development staff working with developers/customers (soft sell approach); Mountain theme still in place but new draft has suggested finishings instead of mandatory finishings; Development staff will make the final call on applications; Members expressed concern that business owners will not follow the mountain theme and that the more its open to interpretation the more difficult it is to enforce rules; Concern expressed about having an optional mountain theme for the community;
- Traffic Flows and Parking: Bylaw has been making truck drivers more aware of the parking restrictions by Tim Horton's; There are future plans to put in a connector road to

  
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connect Thompson Lake to Robb Road; Matthew will bring a large map for the next meeting to show the group the future build out;

- **Beautification:** Group discussed boulevards and an improvement would be to replace the boulevards with stone scaping; Noted that boulevard improvements have been an ongoing problem; Need a group that is willing to take on the project; Albert outlined the pros and cons of stone scaping; Two backlit signs will be allowed per brand and one pole sign;
- Members commented that landscaping should be put in for the town sign on the west end;
- **Enforcement and Compliance:** Matthew advised that council is hoping to introduce a tiered taxing system to address the properties that are not developed; Implementing a higher tax rate for undeveloped properties is intended to act as an incentive for the owner to improve their property.

**There was consensus that Councillor Young request Council to direct administration to provide a report on possible improvements to the Town sign on the east end (ie. Lifting the sign).**

**CARRIED**

#### **ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

**MCKAY – That the CEAC Minutes of December 11, 2014 be adopted.**

**CARRIED**

#### **ACTION ITEMS**

##### **1. Community Connection Team Reports**

###### **Recreation & Culture** (Scott & Doug)

**Maxwell Lake:** Hans van Klaveren has been clearing Maxwell Lake for skating; it would be great if someone could help out if they are able;

**Riverfront Committee:** The committee will be meeting tonight and will be having a meeting with council soon;

**Winter Magic:** Winter Magic is just around the corner;

**North American Biathlon Championships:** Coming to Hinton March 11-15, 2015. Go to [www.hintonnordic.ca](http://www.hintonnordic.ca) for volunteer signup.

###### **Education, Wellness & Social Supports** (Fiona & Kathy)

**BRIDGES:** Hosting a fundraising dinner with the Minister of Health with MLA Robin Campbell also in attendance on January 30<sup>th</sup> at the Hinton Centre, tickets are \$60 each;

**Down Payment Assistance Program:** Comments that there was not effective communication about the program in the community; Town needs to correct incorrect information.

###### **Governance & Partnerships** (Garth & Scott)

**State of the Local Economy:** General opinion that it is not as bad in Hinton as elsewhere and that there are a lot of good things still happening with industries like pulp, tourism and the coal mine; Alberta will still grow but at a slower pace; Hinton has enough industry to weather the storm.

  
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**Local Economy** (Gerry & Albert)

**Economy:** Informal surveys on the industrial supply side indicate that there is a lot of concern about government projects being cut; Industrial service providers indicate a slow down and budget cuts; Lots of concern what is going to happen provincially;

**2015 Provincial Budget:** Chamber will be hosting a presentation by MLA Robin Campbell who will be speaking directly to this year's budget, the implications for Alberta and specifically regarding provincial commitments to Hinton on January 23, 2015 at 4:30 p.m. in the basement of the Holiday Inn. The event is open to non-members; There will be a presentation and question period session.

**Natural & Built Environments** (Joann & George)

Nothing to report.

**2. CEAC Participation / Grant Funding Advisory Committee**

Rhonda West provided the group with a high level overview of the new format for community grants and the proposed Hinton Grant Funding Advisory Committee. CEAC members expressed that the new format would make it much easier for people to get information and apply for grant funding by having the grant under one umbrella.

**3. Review and Update Delegation Invitation List**

There was consensus to invite Renee Laboucane to speak to CEAC on the Post Secondary Education and Training Campus and Program Partnerships at their March 19, 2015 meeting.

CARRIED

**INFORMATION ITEMS**

- Rhonda asked to send out consolidated survey results to members for review;
- Noted that Seattle has gone ahead implementing the living wage program; Chris commented that the budget proposes a living wage for recreation staff that are currently under it;
- Gas prices are a concern of everyone in Hinton noting that prices are cheaper in Edson and Jasper. CEAC members challenged one another to contact the Competition Bureau of Canada and file a complaint.

**COMMUNITY PULSE**

There was consensus to remove this heading from the agenda.

**COMMUNICATION ACTION**

**NEXT MEETING**

The next meetings of CEAC are scheduled for February 19, 2015 and March 19, 2015 at 11:00 a.m.


  
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**ADJOURNMENT**

**HEINE - That the Regular Meeting of CEAC adjourn.**

**CARRIED**

The time was 1:18 p.m.

  
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Chairman  
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Acting Director of Community &  
Protective Services

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